(b) to (d) KRIBHCO is one of the Indian sponsors in the Oman India Fertilizer Project which was approved by the Government in December, 1997. Primarily on account of the continuous and significant dip in urea prices in the international market, it was considered necessary to revise and restructure the project. Accordingly, the modalities connected with the revised and restructured Oman Project are being discussed and processed for obtaining the necessary approvals. The total capital cost of the Oman project as envisaged in the restructured and revised proposal is US$ 969 million. Out of this total equity contribution of KRIBHCO is envisaged as US$ 80.0 million. The project will be commissioned within 35 months from the zero date which is yet to be fixed.

Viability of Sick Fertilizer Units

1683. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "We can turn around sick fertilizer units" appearing in Financial Express dated 15th November, 1999 regarding advice of a team of experts through CSIR about the viability of sick fertilizer units;

(b) if so, the number of reports Prepared so far, alongwith the names of experts/agencies, from 1994 onwards, in chronological order, on the viability/revival of sick HFC & FCI units; and

(c) whether the available reprots are not sufficient to keep units like Durgapur, Barauni, Ramagundam and talcher running before a final decision is taken; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following reprots have been prepared to ascertain the viability of the revival of the units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corproation Ltd. (HFC) and Fertilizer Corproation of India Ltd. (FCI):—

Name of the Committee	Subject	Month/Year of submission of report
Purohit Committee	Revamp of Barauni, Durgapur, Namrup-I and II units	July, 1994
Expert group led by ICICI	Formulation of revival package of HFC	February, 1997
Expert Group led by ICICI	Formulaiton of revival package of FCI	May, 1997

(c) The operations of Durgapur unit of HFC were suspended in June 1997 due to a fire incident. Operaitons of Barauni unit of HFC, and Ramagundam & Talchar units of FCI have been suspended sice January 1999. Comprehensive rehabilitation proposals of both HFC and FCI are to be submitted to the Government and thereafter for the final sanction of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Understatement of Capacities In Urea Manufacturing Units

1684. SHRI MD. SALIM
SHRI NIOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Technical Committee appointed by Government had looked into the understatement of capacities by some urea manufacturing units;

(b) if so, the names of the units where understatement of capacities were identified;

(c) the estimated overdrawal of subsidies because of the understatement;